

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for the News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings

American Association of Railway Surgeons, Chicago, November 13-15, 1935. Louis J. Mitchell, M.D., 86 East Randolph Street, Chicago, Secretary.

American Society of Tropical Medicine, St. Louis, November 19-22, 1935. Alfred C. Reed, M.D., 350 Post Street, San Francisco, Secretary.

California Medical Association, Coronado, May 25-28, 1936. Frederick C. Warnshuis, M.D., 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, Secretary.

Pacific Coast Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Los Angeles, November 6-9, 1935. T. Floyd Bell, M.D., 400 Twenty-ninth Street, Oakland, Secretary.

Southern California Medical Association, Los Angeles, November 29-30, 1935. Robert W. Langley, M.D., 1930 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, Secretary.

Western Surgical Association, Rochester, Minnesota, December 6-8, 1935. Albert H. Montgomery, M.D., 122 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago, Secretary.

Medical Broadcasts*

The *American Medical Association* broadcasts over the blue network of the National Broadcasting Company at 5 p. m. eastern standard time (4 p. m. central standard time, 3 p. m. mountain time) each Tuesday, presenting a dramatized program with incidental music under the general theme of "Medical Emergencies and How They Are Met." The title of the program is "Your Health." The program is recognizable by a musical salutation through which the voice of the announcer offers a toast: "Ladies and Gentlemen, Your Health!" The theme of the program is repeated each week in the opening announcement, which informs the listener that the same medical knowledge and the same doctors that are mobilized for the meeting of grave medical emergencies are available in every community, day and night, for the promotion of the health of the people. Each program will include a brief talk dealing with the central theme of the individual broadcast.

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San Francisco County Medical Society.—The radio broadcast program for the San Francisco County Medical Society for the month of November is as follows:

Tuesday, November 5—KYA, 6 p. m.

Tuesday, November 12—KYA, 6 p. m.

Tuesday, November 19—KYA, 6 p. m.

Tuesday, November 26—KYA, 6 p. m.

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Los Angeles County Medical Association.—The radio broadcast program for the Los Angeles County Medical Association for the month of November is as follows:

Saturday, November 2—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 2—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Tuesday, November 5—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 9—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged (stating station, day, date and hour, and subject) to CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, for inclusion in this column.

Saturday, November 9—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Tuesday, November 12—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 16—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 16—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Tuesday, November 19—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 23—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 23—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Tuesday, November 26—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 30—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: The Advance of Medicine.

Saturday, November 30—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Los Angeles County Hospital Postgraduate Courses for Practical Physicians.—Under the auspices of the Los Angeles Medical Department, University of California, announcement is made of a series of postgraduate courses for practicing physicians. The instruction in the various courses will be centralized around the clinical material of the Los Angeles County Hospital, the teaching being done by members of the attending staff of that institution. The new main building of the Los Angeles County Hospital, erected and equipped at a cost of \$15,000,000, is the largest structure of its kind in the world. The bed capacity of the entire hospital is 3,410, the new main unit containing 2,444 beds. The hospital's corps of physicians consists of 531 attending men, eighty-two full-time residents, twenty-eight part-time residents, and has 126 internes in residence. The Olive View Sanatorium for Tuberculosis, also operated by the county, represents an investment of \$2,500,000, and has a bed capacity for 971 patients, with a full-time staff of sixteen members.

The series of courses announced will each cover a five-day period (Monday to Friday, inclusive); all courses commencing on Monday, November 18, 1935.

A dinner meeting of the entire teaching staff and physicians attending the courses will be held in the headquarters building of the Los Angeles County Medical Association on Thursday evening, November 21, at 6:30 o'clock, to be followed by a general meeting in the auditorium in joint session with the Los Angeles County Medical Association, at which Dr. Robert A. Peers of Colfax, president of the California Medical Association, will be the guest speaker.

No course will be given for less than four students. Registrations for courses are limited to certain quotas and close Wednesday, November 14. The fee for each of the five-day courses is \$25 (with the exception of the surgical anatomy course), and must be paid prior to November 14, the date on which the registrations close.

Applications for registration in these courses should be mailed, not later than November 12, to the Registrar, Los Angeles Medical Department, 737 North Broadway, Los Angeles.

The courses offered for the period November 11-15, inclusive, include:

Morning courses: Internal medicine; pediatrics and contagious diseases; dermatology and syphilology; tuberculosis; cardiology; roentgenology; clinical laboratory; obstetrics and gynecology; general surgery;

orthopedic surgery; genito-urinary diseases; proctology; malignant diseases.

Afternoon courses: General review course; surgical anatomy.

The instructors for the series of courses here announced include the following staff members:

Internal Medicine. In charge: John V. Barrow, Roland Cummings.

Pediatrics and Contagious Diseases. In charge: E. E. Moody, George M. Stevens, Wilton L. Halverson.

Dermatology and Syphilology. In charge: S. Ayres, Jr. *Tuberculosis.* In charge: Carl R. Howson.

Cardiology. In charge: Phoebus Berman, R. Manning Clarke.

Roentgenology. In charge: Ray A. Carter, Clayton R. Johnson.

Clinical Laboratory. In charge: Newton Evans.

Obstetrics and Gynecology. In charge: Edmond M. Lazar, Ralph J. Thompson, Rafe C. Chaffin, Wilburn Smith.

General Surgery. In charge: Charles Eaton Phillips, George Thomason, A. B. Cooke.

Orthopedic Surgery. In charge: Philip Stephens, Alfred E. Gallant.

Genito-Urinary Diseases. In charge: Robert V. Day, Adolph A. Kutzmann.

Proctology. In charge: William H. Kiger, William H. Daniel.

Maligancy. In charge: George Thomason, H. P. Jacobson.

General Review Courses. In charge: John V. Barrow, Walter Wessels.

Surgical Anatomy. In charge: Foster K. Collins.

Sixth Symposium on Heart Disease.—The Heart Committee of the San Francisco County Medical Society will hold its sixth annual symposium on heart disease in San Francisco, November 20 to 21. There will be morning, afternoon, and evening sessions at the University of California, San Francisco, and Stanford University hospitals, and at the Department of Public Health.

There will be a registration fee of \$5 for the entire course, or \$1 for single sessions, to help support the activities of the Heart Committee in San Francisco. If you are planning to attend, please notify the secretary as soon as possible. Checks for the registration fee should be made payable to the San Francisco Heart Committee and mailed to Dr. John P. Strickler, Secretary, 604 Mission Street, Room 802, San Francisco. A registration card and program will then be mailed to you.

An outline of the program follows:

Wednesday, November 20

Morning Session, 9 a. m. to 12 noon

University of California Hospital, Toland Hall
Third and Parnassus Avenues

William J. Kerr, M. D., Presiding

9:00-9:30—Clinical Diagnosis and Treatment of Cardiac Irregularities, John J. Sampson, M. D.

9:30-10:00—Hypertension, Dudley W. Bennett, M. D.

10:00-10:45—Clinic on Coronary Occlusion, Eugene S. Kilgore, M. D.

10:45-11:15—Rheumatic Fever in Northern California, Amos U. Christie, M. D.

11:15-12:00—Clinic on Extra Cardiac Circulatory Disease, William J. Kerr, M. D.

Afternoon Session, 1:30 to 4:45 p. m.

San Francisco Department of Public Health
101 Grove Street

John J. Sampson, M. D., Presiding

1:30-1:45—Heart Disease as a Public Health Problem, J. C. Geiger, M. D.

1:45-2:00—The Completed Morbidity Survey of Heart Disease in San Francisco, Jacques P. Gray, M. D.

2:00-2:20—The Purposes and Technique of Cardiac Diagnostic Work in School Children, John J. Sampson, M. D.

2:20-2:40—The Incidence of Heart Disease in San Francisco School Children and Relation to the Rheumatic Fever Problem, Amos U. Christie, M. D.

2:45-4:45—Seminars on the Interpretation of the Electrocardiogram: William Doc, Gordon E. Hein, Eugene S. Kilgore, John B. Lagen, J. Marion Read, Harold H. Rosenblum, John J. Sampson.

Note.—In this session those who register should specify for work in either elementary or advanced study. From four to six small groups will be formed for personal study of problems from the actual records and, if desired, individuals may bring to the session problem electrocardiograms encountered in their own work.

Evening Sessions

(1) University of California Hospital
Third and Parnassus Avenues
(a) Toland Hall

William J. Kerr, M. D., Presiding

(Accommodations for 120)

Bring Your Stethoscope
7 p. m.

30 minutes—Murmurs, William J. Kerr, M. D.; John B. Lagen, M. D.

20 minutes—Moving-Picture Film of Cardiac Irregularities, John B. Lagen, M. D.

10 minutes—Technique of Electrocardiography, John B. Lagen, M. D., and Miss Hitch.

25 minutes—Interpretation of Electrocardiograms, R. D. Friedlander, M. D., and F. J. Underwood, M. D.

8:30 p. m.—Repetition of demonstrations.

(b) Cole Hall

Third Floor, Medical School Building
Herbert W. Allen, M. D., Presiding

(Accommodations for 120)

Bring Your Stethoscope
7 p. m.

10 minutes—Pulse Rate: Pulse Pressure Functional Test, John J. Sampson, M. D.

10 minutes—Venous Pressure, Dudley W. Bennett, M. D.

10 minutes—Vital Capacity, R. F. Escamilla, M. D.

10 minutes—Circulation Time, H. H. Rosenblum, M. D.

15 minutes—Adrenalin and Histamin Tests, Eric Ogden, M. D.

10 minutes—Capillary Resistance, J. F. Rinehart, M. D.

15 minutes—Tests for Vasomotor Control, Leroy K. Gay, M. D., and J. T. Hardesty, M. D.

8:30 p. m.—Repetition of demonstrations.

(2) San Francisco Hospital

Twenty-Second Street and Potrero Avenue

Don Carlos Hines, M. D., Presiding

7:30 p. m.—Special procedures in the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease. A demonstration of practical bedside methods for venous pressure, thoracentesis, Southey tubes, oxygen tent, etc.

Thursday, November 21

Morning Session, 9 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.

Stanford University Hospital—Lane Hall

William W. Newman, M. D., Presiding

9:00-9:30—The Management of the Heart After Surgical Operation, Arthur L. Bloomfield, M. D.

9:30-10:00—Recent Developments in Surgery of the Circulatory System, Emile Holman, M. D.

10:00-10:30—The Basis of Symptoms in Heart Failure, William Dock, M. D.

10:30-11:30—The Value to the Clinician of Roentgen Examination of Cardiac Patients, Harry Garland, M. D.

11:00-11:30—Some Clinical Features of Angina Pectoris, J. K. Lewis, M. D.

11:30-12:30—The Cathode Ray Oscillograph for Registering Heart Sounds and Electrocardiograms, William W. Newman, M. D., and Henry W. Newman, M. D.

Afternoon Session

2 to 5 p. m.

San Francisco Hospital

Twenty-Second Street and Potrero Avenue

Gordon E. Hein, M. D., and J. Marion Read, M. D., Presiding
Clinical and pathologic demonstrations.

Evening Session

San Francisco County Medical Society
2180 Washington Street, near Laguna

7:30 p. m.—Annual Meeting of San Francisco Heart Committee, John J. Sampson, M. D., presiding.

8:00 p. m.—William J. Kerr, M. D., presiding.

1. Use of Drugs in Cardiovascular Conditions: Chauncey D. Leake, Ph. D.; Paul J. Hanzlik, M. D.; William Dock, M. D.; Gordon E. Hein, M. D.

2. William W. Newman, presiding.

Demonstration of Interesting Roentgenograms of Cardiac Lesions (Autopsy Proven), Harry Garland, M. D.

Demonstration of Gross and Microscopic Pathologic Specimens of Various Stages of Cardiac Infarction, D. A. Wood, M. D.

Qualifying Certificate (Basic Science) References.—

A list of reports on qualifying certificate laws, printed in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, is as follows:

Vol. 32, No. 4, April 1930, page 288. 186th Meeting of the Council. Item 30, Medical Practice Act and Basic Science Act.

Vol. 32, No. 6, June, 1930, page 430. Report of Special Committee on Revision of Medical Practice Act and of a Possible Basic Science Act.

Vol. 34, No. 6, June, 1931, page 448. Report of Special Committee on California Medical Practice Act and on a Proposed Qualifying Certificate (So-Called Basic Science) Law.

Vol. 35, No. 3, September, 1931, page 228. Editorial.

Vol. 35, No. 3, September, 1931, page 239. Miscellany.

Vol. 36, No. 2, February, 1932, page 128. Report of Special Committee on Medical Practice Act and on Qualifying Certificate Law.

Vol. 36, No. 6, June, 1932, page 439. Report of Special Committee on California Medical Practice Act and on a Qualifying Certificate (So-Called Basic Science) Law.

Vol. 41, No. 5, November, 1934, page 339.

Vol. 42, No. 1, January, 1935, pages 39 and 53.

Vol. 43, No. 4, October, 1935, page 304.

The above references are printed because the subject is discussed editorially in this issue.

State University Mortality Rate Is Lowest in Country.—

The University of California at Berkeley has the lowest death rate among its students of any like institution in the country, whose records are available to date. And, while comparative health data are hard to obtain, the general health of the 12,000 or more students at Berkeley apparently is not excelled anywhere.

These facts were brought out by Dr. R. T. Legge, University physician, in commenting recently on the physical fitness of the young men and women who have come trooping back to the campus from all parts of the State for the opening of the fall semester. In his announcement, Doctor Legge revealed some of the extraordinary measures that the University takes to keep the students in their classroom seats healthy, happy, and mentally alert.

The student population at Berkeley suffered but five deaths in a registration of 11,731 in the last academic year, and one of these five was a homicide case. In one recent academic year no deaths were recorded in the student population, which was 10,000 or thereabouts.

This fine showing is attributed by Doctor Legge to the fact that the University concentrates on prevention as well as cure. If an epidemic of any sort breaks out in any house where a number of students are living together, the place is not quarantined, as is the case elsewhere. Instead, the sick student or students are taken to the University infirmary, while those remaining in the house are subjected to strict observation during the incubation period of the disease. In this manner but a few days are lost from classes and the sick are being given skilled hospital treatment instead of being compelled to remain at home and perhaps infect a number of others.

Threatened intellectual mortality, if it can be so classified, is given as close attention as threatened physical mortality by the University. No student is "flunked out" of college until it has been determined whether there might be some physical reason for his failure. If this is found, every attempt is made to correct it, so that the student may continue his college course. In this way the college careers of many students have been successfully salvaged where, in past years, dismissal would have been the only alternative.

The mortality showing of the State University is considered particularly remarkable by medical experts in view of the fact that the average mortality of that portion of the general population ranging from 18 to 25 years is 3.2 persons per thousand.

Lecture by Dr. Henri Coutard of the Curie Institute.—At the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena on Tuesday, October 29, Dr. Henri Coutard, chief of x-ray therapy, Curie Institute, Paris, gave an address on "Aspects of Malignant Disease, with Special Reference to the Pharynx."

Doctor's Emergency Aid "For Humanity," Says Court.*—The Los Angeles *Herald-Express* of October 21, under the above caption, in a two-column display spread, printed the following item:

A doctor who gives emergency treatment in a city in which there is no receiving hospital cannot collect a fee if the patient does not wish to pay. His services are presumed to be in the interests of humanity.

That was the effect of a ruling on file today in Municipal Judge Newcomb Condee's court in favor of Mrs. Bertha Jackson, 1306 North Kenmore Avenue.

Mrs. Jackson was sued by T. M. Furst and D. S. Rathbun, acting for Dr. Paul A. Bulpitt, 327 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica. Doctor Bulpitt sought to collect a bill for emergency treatment rendered Mrs. Jackson in his office after she had been injured in an automobile accident.

She refused to pay on the grounds she was unconscious at the time and did not engage the physician to care for her.

New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital.

At a meeting of the Clinical Society of the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital, held on Monday, October 7, the following program was presented:

"The Inhibiting of Thyroid Activity to Control Heart Disease" by Drs. Edmund Horgan and James Alexander Lyon of Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. The discussion was opened by Drs. Richard Lewisohn and Robert Emery Brennan.

"Transthoracic Electrocardiography—The Theory and Clinical Application of the New Electrocardiographic Methods" by Dr. Albert S. Hyman, Witkin Foundation, New York. The discussion was opened by Drs. Louis F. Bishop, Jr., Joseph B. Wolfe, and Harold E. B. Pardee.

Members of the Clinical and Surgical Association of Massachusetts were guests of the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 8 and 9. The members of this society visit medical schools each year, and this year came to the New York Polyclinic Hospital, where a special program was presented.

The Pacific Institute of Tropical Medicine—Lectures by Dr. N. Hamilton Fairley of London.—Dr. N. Hamilton Fairley of London, secretary of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, O. B. E., M. D. (Melbourne), M. R. C. P. (London), D. T. M. and H. (Cambridge), Lieutenant-Colonel, Australian Army Medical Corps, formerly lecturer on parasitology, Egyptian University.

Doctor Fairley will give three lectures in San Francisco: November 13, Wednesday, at 8 p. m., at the County Medical Society, 2180 Washington Street. His subject will be "The Present Status of Blackwater Fever and a Review of the Ceylon Epidemic of Malaria."

November 14, Thursday evening, he will speak at a dinner meeting of the Pasteur Society at the Western Women's Club on the subject, "Snake Bite and Venoms."

November 15, Friday, he will speak at 12 noon in Toland Hall, University of California Hospital, on the subject, "Serum Reactions in Helminthic Disease."

Reservations for the Pasteur Society dinner will have to be made ahead with Miss Margaret Beattie, University of California, Berkeley.

Doctor Fairley is an outstanding leader in tropical medicine in the British Empire, both in research and in clinical practice. His visit to the United States is at the invitation of the American Society of Tropical Medicine meeting in St. Louis November 20-22, and of the Pacific Institute of Tropical Medicine of the University of California.

* See also editorial comments concerning this item, on page 325.

Southern California Medical Society: Meets on November 29-30.—The ninety-third semi-annual meeting of the Southern California Medical Association will be held in Los Angeles at the County Medical Building, 1925 Wilshire Boulevard, on Friday, November 29, and Saturday, November 30.

This meeting will be limited entirely to scientific sessions and an excellent program is being arranged, including guest speakers from other states.

Professor Houssay to Lecture.—Professor B. A. Houssay, professor of physiology and director of the physiologic institute in Buenos Aires, Argentina, is expected to arrive in San Francisco on or about December 7. He will give a number of lectures in Boston, New York, and Cleveland before arriving on the Coast. Professor Houssay will lecture at Stanford University, December 7 at 10 a. m., and in Lane Hall, Stanford University School of Medicine, on December 9 at 1:30 p. m. Subject: "Hypophysis and Resistance to Infection, Intoxication and Cancer." He will also give lectures at the University of California Medical School and before the California Academy of Medicine on December 14, and in Portland, Los Angeles, and San Diego between December 15 and 20, before returning East. Professor Houssay is noted for his investigations of the endocrines, especially the pituitary gland, and many other physiologic subjects.

Health Officers' Section, League of California Municipalities.—The 1935 session of this organization was held at San Francisco, September 23 to 26, with the following three-day program:

Monday, September 23

Auditorium, San Francisco Department of Public Health

9 a. m.

Registration.
Address of welcome.
Response.
President's address
Report of secretary.

2 p. m.

Presiding, Dr. Herbert F. True, President, Health Officers' Section.

Snake Venoms and Insect Bites—Dr. Tracy I. Storer, Department of Zoölogy, University of California College of Agriculture, Davis. Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, Department of Pharmacology, University of California Medical School in San Francisco, discussant.

Rabies—Dr. J. L. Pomeroy, Health Officer, Los Angeles County. C. R. Schroeder, D. V. M., Pathologist, Zoölogical Society of San Diego, discussant.

Relapsing Fever—Dr. Edwin B. Godfrey, Health Officer, San Bernardino County. Dr. C. L. Emmons, City Health Officer, Ontario, discussant.

Coccidioides Granuloma—Dr. H. E. Miller, University of California Medical School, San Francisco. Dr. E. C. Dickson, Stanford School of Medicine, San Francisco, discussant.

Public Health Aspects of Gonococcus Infections—Dr. H. M. Elliott, Director, Venereal Disease Divisions, City Health Department, Los Angeles. Dr. Lee A. Stone, County Health Officer, Madera, discussant.

Tuesday, September 24

Auditorium, San Francisco Department of Public Health

9 a. m.

Presiding, Dr. John L. Pomeroy, Health Officer, Los Angeles County.

Joint session with California Association of Dairy and Milk Inspectors.

New Legislation Governing Milk—Nelson E. Clemens, D. V. M., City Health Officer, Hayward. Dr. H. C. Brown, City Health Officer, San Jose, discussant.

Physical Examination of School Children—Dr. R. C. Main, Health Officer, Santa Barbara County. Dr. E. F. Reamer, Health Officer of Stanislaus County, discussant.

Public Health Nursing—Miss Naomi Deutsch, Associate Professor, University of California, Department of Hygiene, Berkeley. Miss Ernestine Schwab, San Francisco Health Department, discussant. Mrs. Mary Ann Haw-

thorne, Supervising Nurse, Sacramento City Health Department, discussant.

Swimming Pools—Mr. Louis Olsen, City Health Officer, Palo Alto. Mr. W. F. Ingram, Sanitary Engineer, San Joaquin County, discussant.

Air Conditioning—Dr. Walter B. Coffey, Chief Surgeon, Southern Pacific Hospital, San Francisco.

2 p. m.

Presiding, Dr. Alex M. Lessem, Vice-President, Health Officers' Section.

Raw Food Control—Dr. R. M. Fortier, Health Officer of Monterey County. Dr. N. N. Ashley, City Health Officer, Oakland, discussant.

Research in Food Poisoning—Dr. R. V. Stone, Director of Laboratories, Los Angeles County. Dr. J. C. Geiger, City Health Officer, San Francisco, discussant.

Immunization in Poliomyelitis—Dr. George M. Stevens, First Assistant Health Officer, Los Angeles. Dr. P. J. Cuneo, City Health Officer, Bakersfield, discussant.

Diphtheria Immunization—Dr. C. M. Burchfiel, Health Officer, Santa Clara County. Dr. Edward B. Shaw, Children's Hospital, San Francisco, discussant.

Demonstration of Diphtheria Immunization—By the San Francisco Department of Public Health, Dr. J. C. Geiger, Director.

6 p. m.

Banquet—Health Officers' Section. Speaker: Dr. Robert G. Sproul, President, University of California, Berkeley.

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Wednesday, September 25

Auditorium, San Francisco Department of Public Health

9 a. m.

Presiding, Dr. C. M. Burchfiel, Health Officer, Santa Clara County.

A County Sanitary Privy Program—Dr. Warren F. Fox, County Health Officer, Imperial County. Dr. W. A. Powell, Health Officer, Contra Costa County, discussant. Dr. W. F. Stein, Health Officer, Fresno County, discussant.

Public Health Vital Statistics—Eschscholtzia Lucia, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biometry, University of California. Dr. Frank L. Kelly, Health Officer of Berkeley, discussant. Dr. W. P. Shepard, Assistant Secretary, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, San Francisco, discussant.

Relationship of County Hospitals to County Health Departments—Dr. Joe Smith, Health Officer, Kern County. Dr. Jacques P. Gray, Assistant Director of Public Health, San Francisco, discussant.

Psittacosis—Dr. C. T. Roome, City Health Officer, Santa Barbara. Dr. K. H. Sutherland, Health Officer, Orange County, discussant.

Selvatic Plague—Dr. W. E. Coppedge, Health Officer, Modoc County. Dr. Elmo R. Zumwalt, Health Officer, Tulare County, discussant.

2 p. m.

Demonstrations at Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, Dr. Karl F. Meyer, Director.

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Thursday, September 26

Civic Auditorium, San Francisco

9 a. m.

General session, League of California Municipalities. *Auditorium, San Francisco Department of Public Health*

2 p. m.

Business session.

Report of Resolutions Committee.

Report of Nomination Committee.

Election of officers.

Adjournment.

Dinitrophenol.—Blindness from the use of dinitrophenol for reducing weight has not stopped the use of the drug on spite of repeated warning, says W. G. Campbell, Chief of the Federal Food and Drug Administration.

The eye cataracts observed in dinitrophenol poisoning develop with a rapidity and malignancy hitherto unknown, and result in total blindness within a comparatively short time. This drug may produce acute poisoning, the symptoms of which are nausea, stomach and intestinal distress, sweating, flushed skin, high fever, rapid breathing, and muscular rigor followed by death. The drug also damages the liver, kidneys, heart, and sensory nerves. It produces agranulocyto-

sis, a blood disorder also noted in cases of poisoning with amidopyrin, a common ingredient of medicines for the relief of pain.

The Food and Drugs Act, according to Mr. Campbell, is practically inoperative against this public health hazard. He says, "The only application of the law to these products is through some misstatement of fact or some false and fraudulent curative claim in the labeling. In any event, the law can be invoked only when the product has been transported across a state line."

"There is little doubt," continues Mr. Campbell, "that the cases of progressive blindness recently reported in California are the result of medication with dinitrophenol. It is to be regretted that the present federal law is silent with respect to the control of dangerous drugs."

Of all the products containing dinitrophenol now on the market, only one has been confiscated under the Food and Drugs Act, the Administration reports. That was "Slim," against which legal action was brought because of label claim that it was "safe to use," whereas medical opinion is unanimous to the contrary. This proceeding was approved by Mr. Campbell, who states that in the absence of affirmative control over dangerous drugs, and to achieve one of the essential objects of the Food and Drugs Act—the protection of the public health—it is the purpose of the Administration to take advantage on any available legal technicality in proceeding against all products containing dinitrophenol. This, he points out, is contrary to the usual practice of the Administration in enforcing the Food and Drug Act.

Dinitrophenol is sold under many fanciful names sometimes accompanied by a statement of the presence of the drug itself. Some of the names under which it has been or is now being sold are reported by the Food and Drug Administration as follows: Nitromet, Dinitrolac, Nitra-Phen, Dinitrise, Formula 281, Dinitrose, Nox-Ben-01, Re-Du, Aldinol, Dinitrenal, Prescription No. 17, Slim, Dinitrole, Tabolin, and Redusols.

"It is interesting to note," said Mr. Campbell, "that all the so-called reducing preparations on the market fall into three categories: first, laxatives that deny the body the benefit of its food intake, as the salts, crystals, and herb teas; second, obvious frauds that depend for effect upon the stringent diets prescribed as part of the 'treatment,' as 'Syl-Vette' and 'Stardom's Hollywood Diet'; and third, the unquestionably effective but dangerous articles containing thyroid or dinitrophenol, both of which act by speeding up the utilization of food. All of them are unwarranted impositions upon the public, which cannot evaluate claims made for the preparations, and cannot readily appreciate the harm that may result from careless use of the products."

Predicts Law Will Benefit Thirty Millions.—President Roosevelt recently signed the long-awaited Social Security Bill, which he hailed as "historic for all time," and, for the first time in history, the United States has a federal system of old-age pensions and unemployment insurance, according to Universal Service.

President Roosevelt predicted that its benefits will be felt by thirty million Americans and that it will provide at least partial protection against the shock of future economic depression. . . .

Besides retirement annuities, the bill provides a maximum federal pension grant of \$15 a month for individuals of sixty-five years and over, to be matched by like contributions by the various states. A payroll tax of 3 per cent is also provided to defray the basic cost of unemployment compensation.

The President, in signing the bill, said:

"Today, a hope of many years' standing is in large part fulfilled. The civilization of the past hundred years, with its startling industrial changes, has tended more and more to make life insecure. Young people have come to wonder what would be their lot when

they came to old age. The man with a job wondered how long the job would last.

"This social security measure gives at least some protection to thirty million of our citizens.

"We can never insure 100 per cent of the population against 100 per cent of the hazards and vicissitudes of life, but we have tried to frame a law which will give some measure of protection to the average citizen against the loss of a job and against poverty-ridden old age."

American Medical Association Directory of Licensed Physicians.—The work of revising and compiling the new fourteenth edition of the American Medical Directory has been started. A letter from American Medical Association headquarters states:

After every directory is published we receive a number of complaints from physicians who have not been listed as members or fellows of the American Medical Association. Some of these men have possibly lost appointments with industrial firms, insurance companies, railroads, etc., because they were not indicated as members. They may have been members and let their membership lapse, or new men in the community who failed to join their local society in time to indicate this information in the directory.

To eliminate such criticism, we are asking secretaries of state medical societies and editors of state medical journals to cooperate in notifying all delinquents and eligible applicants that a new directory is going to be published. It would aid greatly if a notice were placed in your publication, calling to the attention of your readers the importance of sending in their data promptly when requested and the keeping up of their membership in your society.

It will probably be two years or 1938 before another directory will be issued.

Notice to Laboratory Directors Concerning the New Laboratory Law.—Under the provisions of Chapter 638, Statutes of 1935, all clinical laboratories not exempted by law must be under the direct supervision of a licensed physician and surgeon or of a licensed clinical laboratory technologist.

Any person, not a physician, who has been engaged continuously in the *work and management* of a clinical laboratory, either as owner or director, for a period of not less than five years immediately preceding September 15, 1935, the date the law becomes effective, the last year of which has been in the State of California, is eligible to receive a license without examination. All such persons should apply to the State Bureau of Laboratories, Berkeley, California, for application forms.

All clinical laboratory directors who are not licensed physicians and surgeons and who cannot qualify under the foregoing must take an examination to secure the technologist's license, failing which, they may not continue as director of the laboratory, but must, if the owner thereof, employ another who is licensed by law to conduct a clinical laboratory.

An examination for clinical laboratory technologists will be held in the near future and all laboratory directors who need to take this examination should apply at once for application forms.

Licensed physicians and surgeons who conduct clinical laboratories and who receive work pertaining to patients other than their own, must secure a permit for each laboratory. Application for forms to be used in requesting a permit should be sent in without undue delay.

University of Southern California.—The opening lecture of the School of Medicine of the University of Southern California was given by Dr. Rufus B. von Klein Smid, president of the University of Southern California, on Thursday, September 26, at 11 a. m., in the Auditorium of the Los Angeles County Hospital. The lecture was well attended.

One Hundred Volunteer for Sterilization at San Quentin.—International News Service prints:

Within a month Dr. L. L. Stanley, resident physician at San Quentin prison, will start sterilization operations upon approximately one hundred prisoners who have volunteered to submit to the operation, Doctor Stanley said recently.

Doctor Stanley received word from Attorney-General U. S. Webb that California has no law prohibiting surgical operations for sterilization of convicts.

"I posted a notice on the bulletin board offering to sterilize any inmate who volunteered," Doctor Stanley said. "Already more than one hundred have signed up. I believe the health of the men will be improved by the operations."

Chiropractors' Suit Is on Trial.—The San Francisco Chronicle recently used the above heading for the following item:

To determine just how far a chiropractor may go beyond spine manipulation in the healing art, hearing of a friendly suit instituted by Dr. M. J. McGranaghan against Dr. Dora Berger, chiropractors of different schools, was begun yesterday before Superior Judge John J. Van Nostrand.

Doctor McGranaghan seeks an interpretation of Section 7 of the act governing the practice of chiropractic. He contends he is within his rights in using medicine and other aids in his practice. Doctor Berger represents the opposite school.

Interested observers were Deputy Attorney-General Lionel Browne, and Dr. Charles B. Pinkham of the State Medical Board.

Durie to Direct Hospital Meeting.—The Association of Western Hospitals, covering eleven states, has selected San Francisco as its convention city for the second year in succession. Approximately 1,600 delegates are expected to attend the meeting, which is the most outstanding of the year in western hospital circles. The next convention will be held in the week of April 20, 1936. The last meeting was in February of the present year.

In anticipation of the meeting, the Association has named S. F. Durie, superintendent of the University of California Hospital, as chairman of the convention Executive Committee. Superintendent Durie served in the same capacity for the 1935 meeting.

New Policy of the American Medical Association Council on Medical Education.—A business meeting of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals was held at the Brown Palace Hotel, Denver, September 15, 1935.

According to the minutes the survey of American medical schools so far completed has revealed certain significant weaknesses, namely:

There is a tendency for medical schools to enlarge their enrollment without a corresponding increase in personnel or instructional facilities.

With a growing appreciation of the necessity for an intimate correlation between clinical and laboratory knowledge, it is evident that this can be obtained only by increasingly close contact between preclinical and clinical departments continuously maintained from the time the student first enters the medical school until he graduates.

The advances of the medical sciences have been and should be independent of any sectarian point of view, and medical education should not be handicapped or directed by a dogmatic attitude toward disease.

For these reasons the Council took the following action:

(a) *Resolved*, That in each medical school the number of students should not exceed the number that can be adequately taught with the laboratory, library, and clinical facilities available and for whom a sufficiently large and competent teaching staff is provided.

(b) *Resolved*, That after July 1, 1938, the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals will no longer publish a list of approved two-year medical schools.

(c) *Resolved*, That after July 1, 1938, the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals will no longer carry on its approved list schools of sectarian medicine.

California Industrial Accident Commission.—During the period of time from July 1, 1930, to and including December 31, 1932, original claims to the number of 15,231 were filed with this Commission. During the period from January 1, 1933, to and including June 30, 1935, original claims to the number of 15,412 were filed. This shows an increase in filing of original claims of 181 during the period from January 1, 1933, to and including June 30, 1935, over a corresponding period of time from July 1, 1930, to and including December 31, 1932.

During the period of time from July 1, 1930, to and including December 31, 1932, decisions in original claims were rendered in 15,142 claims or cases. From January 1, 1933, to and including June 30, 1935, decisions in original claims were rendered in 15,256 claims. This indicates an increase in the number of original decisions during a corresponding period of time, to the extent of 114.

University of California Medical School: Address by B. A. Houssey.—Dr. B. A. Houssey of Buenos Aires will address the students and members of the staff of the University of California Medical School at 9 a. m., on Wednesday, December 11, in Toland Hall, University of California Hospital, on the subject, "Antidotes of Cyanide Intoxication."

LETTERS

Concerning report of reactions in "Concentrated Epinephrin by Inhalation for the Relief of Attacks of Bronchial Asthma."

To the Editor:—Since the publication of my article * on "Concentrated Epinephrin by Inhalation for the Relief of Attacks of Bronchial Asthma," I have received many personal communications from physicians describing severe reactions to this therapy.

These reactions are in the form of dryness and pains in the mouth, pains in the throat, and acute abdominal cramps. Also general symptoms of weakness, lassitude, and faintness.

I am of the opinion that these symptoms are due to the absorption of drops of concentrated epinephrin, these having been deposited in the mouth and throat.

I would like to take this opportunity to warn physicians that the apparatus used for inhalation therapy should be tested by directing a spray against a mirror, and that only such apparatus be used that will not deposit drops.

This will avoid exposing the patient to the hazard of concentrated epinephrin drops and at the same time effecting a saving in the amount of solution used. The essential feature is the inhalation of vapor and not a deposition of drops which cannot be inhaled.

EDWARD MATZGER, M. D.

Concerning sylvatic plague.

To the Editor:—By action of the Western Branch of the American Public Health Association at its sixth annual meeting at Helena, Montana, the first part of July, the president, Dr. W. F. Cogswell, was authorized to appoint a special Committee on Sylvatic Plague. As you probably know, plague has become an increasingly serious problem in the West; there is every reason to believe that the disease now exists in various rodents besides squirrels, and in the states of Oregon, Nevada, Washington, Montana, Idaho, and

* The article was printed in the September, 1935, issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, on page 226.